

April 2001

# KORUS

M O N T H L Y

## ***MWR Bands***

***You could get your  
choice of  
assignments***

***CINC's sensing sessions***

# KORUS

The Only Peninsula-Wide Publication for USFK Members

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U.S. Forces Korea Public Affairs Officer

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## Cover

Jason Tausig of the MWR band "Part of the Tribe" makes his guitar sing during a performance at Camp Luanguardia's Boathouse Club.

Photo by Sgt. John R. Rozean

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## Features



### More of a say in the matter

New barracks are not the only benefit for soldiers who do a one year tour in Korea. Changes in DA policy focus more on the soldier.

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### Korea's Patriot soldiers

Patriot soldiers from around Korea keep the skies safe with their technical skills and state of the art equipment.

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### Saving a mother & child

Helicopter pilots along with other Osan airmen came to the aid of a pregnant Korean mother during her most crucial hour.

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See **KORUS** online at <http://www.korea.army.mil/pao/korus/korus.htm>



# Our DODDS Family

by Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz

**M**y theme for this huddle with you is Our

DoDDS Family: the Department of Defense Dependent Schools. I say 'family' because we ARE a family! We look out for each other, we trust each other, and we care for one another.

First, the DoDDS Korea schools — like any anywhere else — are OUR very own schools. Just think about that. Our schools focus on people — parents, teachers, and students. Our schools are proud partners of our military community — a true mainstay of our lifeblood. Our schools can only be highly successful if we care! Our schools need our daily support, interest, time, and loyalty. Our schools truly count!

Second, our schools are not just buildings, chalk boards, and desks. Our schools are living institutions of people — people dedicated to the well being of our community and our families.

Simply put: Our DoDDS Teachers and Staff teach OUR kids and they nurture OUR future. They are part of our Community, and I want you to know how much we appreciate all you do:

- You hire our spouses!
- You understand the turbulence of military families.
- You understand some of the special needs of our children
- And you always go the extra mile - thank you!

More importantly, teachers are key to the quality of life of our service members serving here in Korea. Quality teachers mean quality education for our kids. That's the kind of benefit that makes families reenlist. Here in Korea, our teachers stretch from Seoul to Pusan encompassing nearly 4,100 students in grades K through 12. That's fantastic!

Additionally, we've been working steadily on construction projects as you can see by the recently opened K-2 school at Camp Humphreys. We're proud of our quality schools.

Needless to say, we're proud of your accomplishments and the accomplishments of our students. For example, our student average SAT scores have consistently ranked above the national average for the past several years. We are so proud!

There is no higher compliment we can pay to our teachers than that! Your commitment shows! We are all winners!

Finally, we're proud of our quality teachers — teachers like Mr. Bill Douglas at Taegu, the DoDDS Korea Teacher of the Year. Our military veterans — now teachers — like Domenico Calabro — Korean War Veteran (Yearbook Coordinator) and CSM Alfred Broswell — Korean War

Veteran (CSM for JROTC). Teachers that have dedicated a lifetime to teaching like Mr. Gene Fried working at Seoul American High School since 1964 (37 Years!) when the roads were still dirt.

Similarly, we are winners because our schools are modernized with computers in the classrooms. More importantly, our schools boast a low student-to-teacher and student-to-computer ratios. Our students are getting a vast jump on the wonders of the information age.

In the meantime, we're proud of what our DoDDS Family does for our military. Our schools contribute so much to our military. They support recruiter visits, run a JROTC program, and support students desires to compete for the service academy appointments. In fact, our schools had 11 academy appointments and 109 ROTC scholarships over the past two years.

Finally, we're proud of the high quality teachers in our community. What you teach today may have ramifications beyond anything you ever imagined because you care for the future — our kids. We are counting on you!

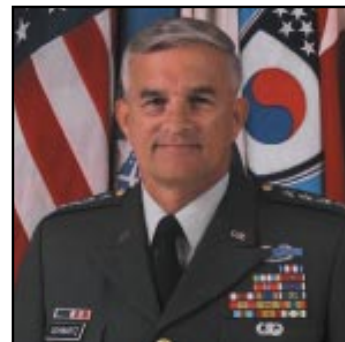
- Keep teaching
- Keep reading
- Keep encouraging
- Our children are counting on you

As part of our family, I challenge all of you to see what you can do to help. Whether you're command sponsored with dependents in the school, unaccompanied, or single — Pitch in! Help our DoDDS family to help your family. Volunteer your time for career day events, be a role model, help out in supporting community activities. It's what we would do for our own family, so let's do it for our DoDDS family.

Before I end, I think it's appropriate to mention that Pope John Paul II once said that — "As the family goes, so goes the nation and so goes the whole world in which we live." This is especially true of our DoDDS family and their impact on the future — our kids.

Last but not least, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Dr. Bruce Jeter who has taken over as Superintendent of DoDDS Schools in Korea.

He has hit the ground running and is already building on the great work of Doug Kelsey. Dr. Jeter brings a wealth of experience and powerful energy to our DoDDS family — welcome aboard!



**Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz**

**Commander in Chief: United Nations  
Command and HQ/U.S. Combined  
Forces Command**

**Commander: U.S. Forces Korea**

# Osan excels during RestOps exercise

Osan Air Base held a Restoration of Operation exercise Feb. 10-16 that might soon help U.S. military installations worldwide improve the way they perform before, during and after chemical and biological warfare attacks.

The first of three annual exercises scheduled for Osan, the 2001 RestOps Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration's main goal was to determine the baseline level to gauge the value of the new technologies that will be implemented in the 2002 and 2003 exercises.

"The improvements we make can be used by any service at any fixed location. The goal is faster, cheaper and better – better as in more effective, an improved capability that we currently don't have," said Maj. Steve Stallings, RestOps' operational manager.

Approximately 400 RestOps observers looked at and documented how Osan's units conducted themselves during the exercise.

"The Osan Team is interconnected. Each unit is affected directly or indirectly by every other, so it was important to study the entire operation. The questions I need to answer are, 'How can I make things better? What technology could units benefit from?'" said Stallings.

It will take four to five months to fully analyze and understand the information they collected, according to Stallings.

Instead of spending time and funds on creating new equipment, the ACTD's philosophy is to bring in mature and almost-mature technologies. This means improvements could be seen almost immediately instead of after eight to 10 years.

Osan was chosen as the evaluation sight for its mission and its merit.

"Osan is the best of the best. It's the best-prepared and trained unit that we have. So rather than lowering the bridge to meet the river or raising the river to meet the bride, we thought, 'Let's start with the best of the best and let's push the standard,'" said Stallings.

The three exercises are part of a five-year plan that includes the two follow-up exercises and a two-year transition period where RestOps will maintain



Staff Sgt. George F. Thompson Jr.

Senior Airman Tommy Rolls helps out his teammate Senior Airman Torrey Kelley with the drawstrings of the new Joint Service Lightweight Integrated Suit Technology during the Restoration of Operations exercise at Osan Air Base.

any accepted systems until regular Air Force funding is secured. (Courtesy 51st Fighter Wing Public Affairs and U.S. Forces Korea Public Affairs)

## U.S. soldier dies from injuries sustained in fire

SEOUL, Republic of Korea (USFK) March 7, 2001 – Sergeant Joseph Crider, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 8th Personnel Command, Eighth United States Army, died March 3 due to complications from injuries sustained in a Dec. 25 fire at his off-post residence.

According to reports, Crider alerted his roommates, Sgt. Lawrence Robinson and his wife Sung Hee, of the fire.

The Robinsons were able to evacuate the apartment through a bedroom exit but Crider remained trapped inside. Crider was rescued by the Seoul Fire Department.

Because of the severity of his injuries, Sergeant Crider was evacuated from Korea to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 28.

A memorial service was held March 7 at Memorial Chapel.

Sergeant Crider arrived at HHC, 8th PERSCOM on Jan. 6 2000. His awards include Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal with three OLC, two Good Conduct Medals, NCO Proficiency Development Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, two Overseas Service Ribbons and the Army Service Ribbon.

He was a native of Atlanta, Georgia and is survived by his wife Cara and daughter Kira Rae.

Those wishing to express condolences to the Crider family can contact Capt. Tony Parilli at [ParilliL@usfk.korea.army.mil](mailto:ParilliL@usfk.korea.army.mil).



# Soldiers help clean up in Wonju

By Bob Warner

Area III Public Affairs

It was a military formation, of sorts, from two countries last week, performing toward a common goal – cleaning up the environment.

Soldiers from Camps Long and Eagle joined with host nation forces from the First Republic of Korea Army headquarters to wage war against trash along the banks of the Wonju River.

The soldiers are called on five times annually to assist in the community clean up, said Ko, Tal Song, community relations officer for Camps Long and Eagle.

“It’s a good chance for us to get out and help our neighbors,” said Maj. Noel Lewke, acting commander of the U.S. installations in the city.

Lewke was one of the many volunteers who donated time and labor on a very cold and windy day to pick up trash that the harsh winter had blown around.

The group of American and KATUSA soldiers from the U.S. installations joined the FROKA soldiers at the scene, creating a formidable wave against the ugliness winter had bestowed upon the riverbed.

“We’re really happy to help the people of Wonju to clean up all the trash,” said Sgt. Suk, Jin Oh, with Combat Support Coordination Team #1 at Camp Long. “We’re really glad the Americans came to do this, too. This is not their country but, out of friendship, they are helping us.”

Toward a common goal of being good stewards of the environment, the soldiers spread out along the banks of the small river and picked up several bags of winter’s waste.

“Efforts to conserve the environment help not only the people of Wonju, but all of us who live and work near here,” said Capt. Ian S. Bennett, HHT, 1<sup>st</sup> Sqdn., 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade, as he bent over a drainage ditch and nearly filled a large bag with his findings at that one location.

While the manpower was provided by the soldiers of Camps Long and Eagle and their counterparts at FROKA, bags and gloves were provided by the city of Wonju.



Capt. Ian S. Bennett, HHT, 1<sup>st</sup> Sqdn., 6<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Brigade, fills a bag as he empties out a storm ditch that flows into the Wonju River during spring cleanup.

Bob Warner

## Bus schedule for new Incheon Airport

The new Incheon International Airport is scheduled to open March 29. All personnel arriving and departing Korea will begin to use Incheon, which lies 40 miles west of Seoul.

Adjacent are shuttle schedules available to U.S. Forces Korea members, from various locations throughout the peninsula. Usage fees for the shuttle are noted, where applicable. This schedule may change, as traffic patterns to and from the airport develop.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Replacement Company to Incheon Airport -- No Cost

|    |                    |           |           |           |            |
|----|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| LV | 1 <sup>st</sup> RC | 5:20 a.m. | 5:20 p.m. | 6:20 p.m. | 8:20 p.m.  |
| AR | Incheon            | 6:30 a.m. | 6:30 p.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 9:30 p.m.  |
| LV | Incheon            | 7:30 a.m. | 7:30 p.m. | 8:30 p.m. | 10:30 p.m. |
| AR | 1 <sup>st</sup> RC | 8:40 a.m. | 8:40 p.m. | 9:40 p.m. | 11:40 p.m. |

### Osan AB to Incheon Airport -- Cost \$15

|    |         |           |            |            |
|----|---------|-----------|------------|------------|
| LV | Osan    | 5:30 a.m. | 11:30 a.m. | 3:30 p.m.  |
| AR | Incheon | 8 a.m.    | 2:30 p.m.  | 6:30 p.m.  |
| LV | Incheon | 10 a.m.   | 7:30 p.m.  | 10 p.m.    |
| AR | Osan    | noon      | 10:30 p.m. | 12:30 a.m. |

### Yongsan Bus Terminal to Incheon Airport -- No Cost

|    |                  |         |            |           |            |
|----|------------------|---------|------------|-----------|------------|
| LV | Bus Terminal     | 6 a.m.  | noon       | 3:30 p.m. | 8:50 p.m.  |
|    | Dragon Hill      | 6:03 am | 12:30 p.m. | 3:33 p.m. | 8:53 p.m.  |
|    | SP#51            | 6:10 am | 12:10 p.m. | 3:40 p.m. | 9 p.m.     |
| AR | Inchon *(Dep #5) | 7:19 am | 1:19 p.m.  | 4:49 p.m. | 10:09 p.m. |
|    | *(Dep#11)        | 7:20 am | 1:20 p.m.  | 4:50 p.m. | 10:10 p.m. |

|    |                |           |           |           |            |
|----|----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| LV | Inchon*(Arr#1) | 7:30 a.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 5 p.m.    | 10:20 p.m. |
|    | *(Arr#26)      | 7:32 a.m. | 1:32 p.m. | 5:02 p.m. | 10:22 p.m. |
|    | SP#51          | 8:40 a.m. | 2:40 p.m. | 6:10 p.m. | 11:30 p.m. |
|    | Dragon Hill    | 8:48 a.m. | 2:48 p.m. | 6:18 p.m. | 11:38 p.m. |
| AR | Bus Terminal   | 8:50 a.m. | 2:50 p.m. | 6:20 p.m. | 11:40 p.m. |

\*Dep #5: KAL, Asiana. Dep #11: United, Northwest and CONUS Carriers  
Arr #1: KAL, Asiana. Arr #26: United, Northwest and CONUS Carriers

### Camp Hovey/Camp Casey to Incheon Airport - Cost \$50

|    |          |            |           |
|----|----------|------------|-----------|
| LV | Cp Hovey | 5 a.m.     | 2:30 p.m. |
|    | Cp Casey | 5:30 a.m.  | 3 p.m.    |
| AR | Inchon   | 8:30 a.m.  | 6 p.m.    |
| LV | Inchon   | 9:30 a.m.  | 10 p.m.   |
|    | Cp Casey | 12:30 a.m. | 1 a.m.    |
| AR | Cp Hovey | 1 p.m.     | 1:30 a.m. |

The finger print scan is used for identification of military personnel.



## GETTING ON BOARD WITH BIDS ...

# SIMPLY PUT

*Photos by Spc. Keisha Lunsford*



Myong, Gaines, a family member registers with the BIDS system at the ACS Building on Yongsan's South Post.

**T**ime is running out for people who need access to USFK installations to register with the Biometric Identification System.

SOFA personnel and family members will be entered into the database using their current ID card, but non-SOFA personnel will receive a new base pass.

If you need access to USFK installations and haven't enrolled into the BIDS system or haven't been issued a new base pass by May 1, you will be denied access.

Before you rush off to your local registration center, there are a few things to keep in mind.

■ Everyone should remember

to bring their current Department of Defense identification card to the BIDS station. The BIDS representative will ask for your ID card and perform a computer search to find out if the person is in the system or not.

■ You will have to provide the BIDS representative with your assigned unit, work number, address and driver's license number.

■ The process usually takes about 3 to 5 minutes for SOFA personnel and about 10 to 15 minutes for non-SOFA personnel.

■ Non-SOFA personnel can pick up their new base card at their local vehicle registration site at the



BIDS representative Spc. Nichole Houston from the Pass and ID office with the 94th MP Battalion, verifies an individual's military information.

Pass and ID section.

An article better detailing this new system ran in KORUS's March issue.

# A *special* kind of cargo

## USFK Public Affairs

An American forces rescue helicopter saved the lives of a pregnant mother and her unborn child Monday in a daring air evacuation from Bek Ryung Island.

A U.S. Air Force HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopter took off from Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, at 1:56 a.m. Monday morning to rescue Yu, Shin Ja, a 33-year old Korean national, from Bek Ryung Island.

The drama began at 8 p.m., Sunday, when Yu's water broke. Yu was diagnosed with a potentially life threatening complication and was in need of an emergency caesarian section. Until Yu could be airlifted to a major hospital, Yu's and her unborn child's lives would hang in the balance.

USFK helicopter support was requested about 11:30 p.m. Close cooperation between allies resulted in the approval and launch of an American rescue helicopter.

Detachment 1, 33<sup>rd</sup> Rescue Squadron was given the mission and immediately began planning the rescue operation. An HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter, call sign Air Force Rescue 210, with a crew consisting of 33<sup>rd</sup> Rescue Squadron pilots Maj. Eric Steward, Detachment 1 commander and Capt. Shelly Black; flight engineer Staff Sgt. Matthew Domboski; gunner/scanner Tech. Sgt. Michael Pearce; and pararescueman Staff Sgt. Jason Lydon, launched from Osan at 2 a.m. for the 90 minute flight north. The rescue helicopter also carried Capt. (Dr.) James Thomas, a 51<sup>st</sup> Medical Group family practice physician and 1st Lt. Lee, Jung Ho, a Republic of Korea Air Force linguist.

"The flight was anything but routine," Steward said. Despite the use of Night Vision Goggles, the darkness of flying over water and the low clouds forced the pilots to fly using only the cockpit instruments and Forward-Looking Infrared device to navigate the hour and a half flight.

"Fortunately, (once we arrived), the ambulance was clearly marking the location for the transfer," Steward said.

Although the helicopter crew faced weather conditions that reduced visibility to less than one mile in the vicinity of Bek Ryung, the Pave Hawk is equipped with sophisticated night vision and navigational capabilities. Additionally, the crew trains routinely in bad weather and low visibility operations, and was well prepared for the mission.

The rescue helicopter carried two extra passengers, a family practice physician and a Korean linguist. The



*Staff Sgt. Jason Lydon, pararescueman, Detachment 1, 33<sup>rd</sup> Rescue Squadron, presents Mrs. Yu Shin Ja with a bouquet of flowers and balloons from the squadron during a Thursday visit to Incheon Central Gil Hospital, Incheon, Republic of Korea.*

helicopter landed at Bek Ryung Island about 3:35 a.m. and spent a total of 15 minutes transferring the patient aboard and preparing for the return flight.

"As pararescueman Lydon prepared the patient for the flight back, the father-to-be stood looking on, asking to come along," added Steward. "Even though space on board is extremely limited, the consensus of the crew was to bring him back with his wife, even if we had to have him sit on someone's lap."

"The patient was in stable condition when we arrived and she was suffering from a placental abruption," said Doctor (Capt.) James J. Thomas, family practice physician 51<sup>ST</sup> Medical Group.

Upon arrival at Incheon, a layer of clouds separated the helicopter from the helipad. The only other option was for the crew to divert to Suwon Air Base, 20 miles away, adding to the complications of transferring the patient.

Enroute to Suwon, the crew found a hole in the clouds, descended and turned back toward Incheon to transfer the patient to waiting South Korean medical officials.

The rescue helicopter landed at Incheon along the wharf and was greeted by four waiting ambulances. The patient was rushed to Incheon's Central Gil Hospital and arrived there about 5:40 a.m.

Monday afternoon, the mother and a healthy 9-pound, 6-ounce baby girl were reported in good condition at Gil Hospital.

Thomas commented, "this was this first time I've done something like this. You couldn't see out of the windows because of the clouds for most of the flight. This rescue definitely made my trip to Korea quite an adventure."

"The maintenance and flight crews of Detachment 1 made great strides in continuing relations between the U.S. and ROK," Steward said. "Often, a call in the early hours of a weekend means bad news, especially after a long exercise."

"This one brought pride to the detachment, reiterating the Rescue motto, 'These things we do that others may live.'"

Related links: [http://www.af.mil/news/factsheets/HH\\_60G\\_Pave\\_Hawk.html](http://www.af.mil/news/factsheets/HH_60G_Pave_Hawk.html)



# Have a *"DREAM"* assignment in mind?

## Don't miss out on DA's new program

By Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez  
Eighth U.S. Army Public Affairs

If you ask, you shall receive. All Army troops serving in Korea will get a large say in where they'll be stationed next.

As another incentive for serving in Korea, Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Forces Korea, asked the Department of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel (DCSPER) to revitalize the Homebase/Advanced Assignment Program (HAAP) and make it more responsive to the needs of all soldiers serving in the Republic of Korea. The DCSPER responded and pledged his full support.

This program is also one of many

new initiatives available for soldiers to have increased participation in managing their careers and professional development.

Career managers at the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command (PERSCOM) in Washington, D.C., are making the preferences of officers, warrant officers and enlisted soldiers a priority when scheduling follow-on assignments for troops serving in Korea and other short-tour areas.

"(This policy) represents a fundamental change in our personnel management procedures," said Maj. Pat Rice, Korea's personnel readiness manager at PERSCOM. "It works to promote empowering the soldier in the management of his or her career. The key variable is the soldier, and the soldier actively communicating his or her preferences to their assignment managers."

A soldier's preferences are now second only to the Army's needs in deciding his next duty station. In the past, the second priority was professional development considerations, which were determined by career managers.

Rice and other officials said soldiers who do not file an assignment preference statement with their career branch are missing an opportunity to vote on their future.

"Their vote is a most important vote," he said.

This vote specifically applies to the Homebase/Advanced Assignment Program.

"The new version of the program is designed to ensure Army readiness, take care of the needs of the soldiers and their families and, lastly, to save the Army money associated with PCS moves," said Lt. Col. Karl C. Thoma, the director of Theater Army Replacement Operations, 8th Personnel

Command.

HAAP is made of two components. Under the Homebase Assignment component, soldiers are projected to return to the installation where they were stationed prior to completing a family member-restricted, 12-month Outside Continental U.S. (OCONUS), or overseas, short tour. Soldiers in the Advanced Assignment component are projected to go to a different installation than they were stationed prior to completing a family member-restricted, 12-month OCONUS short-tour.

In short, HAAP allows soldiers to know a year in advance where they'll be going after serving in places like Korea. The program is available only to promotable specialists through master sergeants, warrant officers, and second lieutenants through lieutenant colonels.

"We make that commitment of an advanced assignment up front, before the soldier goes to the family member-restricted area," said Rice.

Another policy change allows soldiers to extend in Korea without losing their voice in the assignment process. Assignment managers at the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command have been instructed to make every effort to meet the HAAP preferences of soldiers who extend their tours.

"This way," said Thoma, "a soldier can extend for a year in a great career enhancing job in the 2nd Infantry Division (for example), collect \$2,000 for doing so under an enhanced enlisted Overseas Tour Extension Incentive Program option, receive the new \$150-a-month (Area I) hardship duty pay (\$50 per month in all other locations in Korea), save for that year, and then go back to a location of choice with a healthier bank account and some financial security."

While our officers and warrant officers have always had a say in their career development through their preference statements, this has not been the case with the enlisted soldiers, according to personnel

*See Benefits, page 16*



Sgt. John R. Rozean

**Sgt. 1st Class David McClintock and 2nd Lt. Lawrence Tomazieski roll their luggage out of the baggage claim area at Kimpo International Airport. An assignment to the Republic of Korea now comes with more pay and better housing.**



## Benefits

from Page 13

management officials. This latest change is part of the Army's trend to allow soldiers to have more responsibility in dictating their development.

"We think our soldiers, especially our young NCOs, are capable of making decisions on where they want to be assigned, and in concert with their professional development," Rice said.

To help with this, the Army will implement Operation Engage, a series of initiatives to improve communication between enlisted soldiers and their career managers.

Operation Engage uses telephones, faxes, mail and the Internet to improve the quality and increase the speed of communication.

Inquiries concerning the status of personnel actions, future schooling or assignments are examples of typical information exchanges that can be conducted through e-mail 24 hours a day.

The Army will change software in its personnel reporting system so soldiers can enter assignment prefer-

ences directly into the automated Enlisted Distribution and Assignment System.

This will be a significant improvement, according to Rice, because assignment managers will be able to see their soldiers' preferences. "Unless a soldier has sent preferences to his branch, assignment managers don't see the preferences," he said.

But personnel officials caution that soldiers should be realistic when they list their preferences, "and we will try and get them to a place where the Army needs them and they want to go," said Lt. Col. Scott Ehrmantraut, of PERSCOM's enlisted directorate.

"It is really key for soldiers to put down realistic preferences," Rice said. "If a soldier puts down a division installation as one of his choices – it does not have to be the first choice – that gives us something to operate with, because that's where the bulk of our soldiers are, and those are the units that we are filling."

The earlier soldiers communicate with their career managers, the better their chances of getting the assignments they want or changing an

assignment to a more desirable one.

Ehrmantraut said soldiers can do this even after they get to Korea.

"What this policy change and Operation Engage is saying is, 'Look, this is the new modern Army,' and the soldiers are Internet-accessible, and we want them to come online and tell us what they want and where they want to go," he said. "We'll do the best within the limits of readiness to do that."

Officials stressed that soldiers should keep their preferences updated. Too many soldiers list their preferences as privates and don't change them even after they get married, promoted or experience other such significant change in their lives.

"(Soldiers) should update those preferences as much as they want," said Rice. That same advice applies to officers and warrant officers.

More information is available on the HAAP program and Operation Engage at <http://www.perscom.army.mil/enlist/haap.htm> or by calling the redeployment section of your servicing personnel detachment.

## Better and better

Other benefits approved or under review for soldiers stationed in Korea include:

A new Hardship Duty Pay to recognize soldiers assigned to areas with extraordinarily difficult quality-of-life conditions. The benefit began Jan. 1 and pays \$150 per month to soldiers in Area 1 and \$50 to all other personnel in Korea.

A proposed new housing allowance for Seoul.

An increase in the Army family housing operations fund for this fiscal year from \$26.8 million to \$30.2 million. This will go toward maintenance and repair to improve government housing in Korea.

An additional \$48 million toward renovating barracks this fiscal year. It will allow 1,433 barracks spaces to be renovated, which is the maximum number that could be renovated considering the logistical limitation in temporarily housing soldiers elsewhere while their barracks are improved.

A change to the Army's Overseas Tour Extension Incentive Program (OTEIP) allows all enlisted soldiers serving on a 12-month Foreign Service Tour Extension



Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

**Recent construction, like Company B, 122 Signal Bn.'s four-story barracks, in Camp Red Cloud, raise the quality of living standards for troops assigned to the Republic of Korea.**

(FSTE) to select from the full range of incentive options, including the \$2,000 lump sum payment. Previously, the FSTE incentive program was available only to certain career fields.

# Among the best

*Story and photos by  
Spc. Nicole C. Adams*

“Among the Army’s best and brightest.”

That’s what a network news anchorman said about Patriot soldiers during the Gulf War. And after watching them in action, you would understand.

In Korea soldiers attached to three Patriot batteries run 24-hour operations with some of the most complicated, expensive equipment in the military.

“Over here you get to do your real-world mission. This is the best training you are going to get,” said Chief Warrant Officer three Tom S. Green, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery, Suwon Air Base.

Because a Patriot battery costs \$100 million, units are very limited. Korea’s three batteries are located at the Osan, Suwon and Kunsan Air Bases. Batteries are also located in Germany, Fort Bliss, Texas and Saudi Arabia, but Green says that Korea is the best place to be assigned, and the soldiers here are the best in the Patriot world.

“The highest reenlistment rate for ADA is in Korea. You get to do what you are supposed to be doing. We have a goal.”

Their goal and mission is one of the most critical in the military, guarding from air attacks. They aid Korea’s military forces by providing air defense against ballistic missiles and aircraft.

To be efficient, the unit requires a great deal of practice and time.

“We work long hours, at least six days a week,” Green said.

Spc. Gregory K. Lee, HHB communications specialist, agrees that the extensive training is necessary. “There is

always something we have to do, always on call. But you get to know your job.”

Patriot soldiers must learn all the components of a patriot battery and how to disassemble a battery, move it to a new area and reassemble it again. In the event that a patriot battery is overrun, they also train on mobility in a tactical environment, learning infantry positions and ground fighting.



*(Above) Pfc. Kimberly M. Thomas, generator mechanic, D. Battery, unrolls cables on the  
(Right) Pvt. Andrea D. Woodall, B. Battery PLM, participates in missile reload training.*



With so little down time, where do soldiers find enjoyment in their work?

Sgt. Jason R. McDougal, Batt. D., patriot missile crewmember and enhanced operator maintainer, said the pressure of the job keeps him going. "I just enjoy the daily challenges of the job, juggling eight hundred things at once. You need lots of motivation and dedication because of the long hours and hardships you face."

For Staff Sgt. Earl G. Bizzell, of HHB, traveling the world and meeting exciting people keeps him raring to go.

Others say they just love the job, which reflects on the mission-oriented unit and it's soldiers, who train hard to live up to their reputation of being "the best and the brightest."



*Pfc. Joseph A. Clay, D Battery POM, connects communications cables.*



*A member of the D. Battery checks the safety latches while running a crew drill.*

*Every month the KORUS staff travels throughout the peninsula searching for stories to spark our readers' interest. Inevitably, many individuals who are vital to the U.S. Forces Korea mission will be left out of our coverage, but occasionally a few will be given the chance to...*

## Represent USFK

Compiled by Pfc. Nicole C. Adams and Pfc. Edgar R. Gonzalez

**S**taff Sgt. Craig A. Lyles, a deputy installation command NCOIC, has been in Korea for 12 months and is with the 1-43 Air Defense Artillery Headquarters and Headquarters Battery on Suwon Air Base..

**Hometown:** Grayland, WA

**What do you like most about Korea?**

"The culture. Traveling all over. The food. The art. The lifestyle. The fashions."

**What is your job within the unit and what do you like about it?** "Management and maintenance of 1-43 billeting in Suwon.

BN NCO warden. Army, AF liason. Everything I do directly affects the soldiers. I have a direct impact on their living conditions, QOL, all aspects of what they can do on the installation."

**What is your unit's mission?** "To provide patriot air defense assets against tactical ballistic missiles for S. Korea."

**Who is the person you respect most in your unit?**



Craig A. Lyles

Photo by Pfc. "A combination of all the first sergeants and sergeants major. They are the elite of what I've seen in 12 years. Their soldier care is unequivocal. They are directly and actively involved in everything their unit does and you don't see that often. Their camaraderie makes the mission work."

**How long have you been working for/with the military and where have you served?**

"12yrs and four months. I've been to Kiaserslautern, Germany; Fort Lewis, WA; Fort Bliss, TX; Televiv, Israel and multiple Southwest Asia rotations."

**What is your dream duty station?** "I'm at it!"

**What is the most interesting thing you have seen or done while in Korea?** "I interacted with the Korean amateur radio clubs. Working with them and seeing how their equipment works compared to the ham radio."

**Your parting shot:** "It's a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Enjoy it and be safe. Think before you act."

**S**enior Airman Christopher Brown, the lodging services clerk for the Osan Inn, has been stationed at Osan Air Base for four months with the 51st Services Squadron.

**Hometown:** Greensboro, NC

**What do you like most about Korea?**

"Honestly, the shopping... because there are better prices here than you would get in the United States."

**What is your job within the unit and what do you like about it?** "I work the front desk lodging checking in TDY and space-A travel people, so you meet a lot of interesting people, from airmen to four-star generals."

**What is your unit's mission?** "My unit's mission is to provide a better quality of life for active duty personnel stationed here."

**Who is the person you respect most in your unit?** Air Force Master Sgt. Tracy Goodwin. She was his



Christopher Brown

Photo by Pfc. Spc. Keisha R. Lunsford

former operations supervisor. "She's very influential and she sticks up for her troops. You can trust her."

**How long have you been working for/with the military and where have you served?** Brown has been in the military for six years. He first

served Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, Washington and Pope AFB in Fayetteville, NC.

**What is your dream duty station?** "My dream choice would be Hickham Air Base, HI."

**What is the most interesting thing you have seen or done while in Korea?** "The Koreans, their ways, their culture and just their way of life is interesting. It's just so much different than Americans."

**Your parting shot:** "This assignment is what you make it."



# ROCKIN'

## THE ROK

*At one time in the United States, rock 'n' roll was believed to be leading America to its moral deterioration. But here in Korea, music is proving to have a very recuperative effect on those serving here.*

*Members of the "Express Band" perform at the Borderline Cafe on Camp Hovey.*



# MWR Bands: Serving the soldiers

Story and photos by  
Sgt. John R. Rozean

Pass by a Moral, Welfare and Recreation facility and you may very well hear the familiar sounds of American music, generated from a live American band. “We all love what we do,” said

Halie O’Ryan, vocalist for the MWR band “Part of the Tribe,” as she traveled through Uijongbu city in an MWR van on its way to Camp LaGuardia’s Boathouse Club where her band was due to play in just a few hours. “Music gets you back in touch with your soul, and I think having some sort of outlet is especially important for soldiers who are so far

from home and are working so hard,” said O’Ryan.

## Blown Away

The U.S. military is able to offer these bands to the servicemembers here at no cost because, “monies for this program come from the Army MWR non-appropriated funds, which are generated by (Army and Air Force Exchange Service) contributions as well as MWR facility profits,” said Gene Gerth, director of offshore and commercial entertainment.

Not bad for the troops, nor is it a bad deal for the entertainers. They all say they feel that coming to Korea to perform for the soldiers is a good opportunity for them.

“In the states we are kind of like a side show. Here people actually show up to see the band. People come up to me all the time to thank me,” said Russ Rosenbalm, drummer for “Part of the Tribe.”

“This is by far the best tour I ever had. Some times I forget what day it is, where I am playing next. But I don’t want it to ever end. I really don’t,” said R.S. Shakespeare, drummer for “24 KARAT”

“The overall goal of the program is to enhance the esprit d’corps of the troops by providing a worth while activity for leisure time as is the mission for all MWR activities,” said Gerth.

It appears to be working, since many soldiers look forward to the shows.

“Every where we go soldiers come up to us and ask us where our next show will be,” said Shakespeare, as he stood outside of Camp Casey, Tonduchon, fumbling in his pockets for an entertainment schedule to give two inquiring soldiers.

“The crowds here are amazing.

*“Part of the Tribe” vocalist Halie O’Ryan gets Rudy Tomen, of the 2nd Infantry Division Band, involved in the performance at Camp Laguardia’s Boathouse Club.*





*R.S. Shakespeare (right) shows off during a performance. (Below) "24 KARAT" rocks the night away at Camp Jackson's Stripes Club.*



***"I DO THIS  
FOR THE  
SOLDIERS"***

***R.S.  
Shakespeare,  
drummer***

They listen. They really, really listen. I am blown away," said Robin Lynn, vocalist for "24 KARAT." Robin often performs on stage as well as off by taking trips into the audience to shake hands, give high-fives and sometimes serenade overwhelmed soldiers.

"Soldiers need this kind of thing. It keeps our moral up. It's a great thing," said Spc. Tim Johnson, 520<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company, Yongsan. "And they play all kinds of music – something for everybody."

"It is a real good stress relief," said Spc. Jim Simpson, 144<sup>th</sup> Engineers,

Cp. House.

"It is obvious that they appreciate us so much, and we enjoy putting on a show for them," said Miki Finn, vocalist for "Express Band." Miki, like Robin, also ventures out to get in touch with her audience. "I like to do that. I want to each one of them to feel good about the show."

### **Not Second Hand Talent**

Gerth says he looks for dedication and professionalism in the bands he picks to perform here. "That's why I audition and screen them individually," he said

"All these people are professionals. They know what they are doing," said Carlos Carpenter, guitarist with "Express Band." who has been playing since he was a child. During shows Carpenter performs a solo where his guitar appears to

talk, and all eyes and ears watch and listen in reverence.

"Yes, these guys are really good," said Spc. Christopher Wells, 82<sup>nd</sup> Engineers, Cp. Edwards.

And no, "there is not one band out here that is not of high caliber," said Steve Taylor, "24 KARAT" band leader and guitarist.

"I expect dedication and hard work from the bands, and they are definitely not second hand talent," said Gerth.

"To do what we do, you really have to be focused. If you're not, you are not entertaining or performing; you're just up there," said Jay Tausig, lead guitarist for "Part of the Tribe."

"When I am playing, I put everything I have into it," said Shakespeare, whose face demonstrates the emotional intensity of the music that his drums make during a performance.

"I play for the people. I do this for the soldiers."

***SOLDIERS NEED THIS  
KIND OF THING."***

***Spc. Tim Johnson***



# Troop Talk with the CINC

**Editor's note: This is the seventh in a series of monthly articles addressing issues and concerns of military forces serving within the U.S. Forces Korea. USFK Commander General Thomas A. Schwartz routinely visits the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines stationed on the Korean peninsula and conducts Sensing Sessions to receive feedback on issues ranging from military service to quality of life. The following topics were raised during recent visits.**

**Issue: KATUSAs get a "KATUSA Week." When are soldiers going to get a "Soldiers Week?"**

**Response:** Don't let the name fool you. KATUSA Week is a one-week recreational period designed to allow U.S. and KATUSA soldiers to participate in activities that highlight the contributions of the KATUSA soldiers to our mission, highlights Republic of Korea culture, and increases fellowship and camaraderie among U.S. and KATUSA soldiers. EUSA Regulation 600-2, chapter, 1, paragraph 1-12, states: Commanders will support the KATUSA Soldier Week held annually, normally during the second week of May. This event should take precedence over all other training. Commanders should maximize participation by KATUSA and U.S. soldiers. Funding for KATUSA Soldier Week will be budgeted by the installation or Major Support Command budget officer. Recommended events are talent contests, sports events, and exhibitions. The Commander will obtain the advice of ROK Army Staff Officers and NCOs when determining events.

**Issue: Why can't we get more awards while assigned to the JSA?**

**Response:** After an inquiry of how many awards were processed for soldiers assigned to the Joint Security Agency, we found that in Fiscal Year 00, 8<sup>th</sup> Personnel Command processed 331 awards for

troops assigned to the JSA. The awards included 197 Army Commendation Medals, six Meritorious Service Medals, three Legions of Merit, 29 Joint Service Achievement Medals, 88 Joint Service Commendation Medals and eight Defense Meritorious Service Medals.

The above total does not include Army Achievement Medals that are processed and awarded at unit level. Of the 12 units that 8<sup>th</sup> PERSCOM reports on, JSA is second in the number of awards submitted for the fiscal year.

**Issue: Can we bring back SQTs?**

**Response:** This is an Army-level issue being worked by the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) at Ft. Monroe, Virginia. The Skill Qualification Test program was discontinued by the Army since Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) could not fully maintain the program during the draw-down. While the Army wrestles with the pros and cons of bringing back SQTs, the chain of command needs to ensure all soldiers maximize technical Military Occupational Specialty training opportunities.

**Issue: How do you prevent rewarding the workaholic v. rewarding those that can balance their jobs?**

**Response:** You start by leading by example. This has to start at the top; it has to start with the policy, and with the Sergeants Major. When it's time to go home, go home! Just

because you don't have family here doesn't mean that you don't need some balance in your life. I expect all to follow the "Soldier's Time" guidance. Go home at 4 p.m. on Thursdays.

**Issue: How is PERSCOM helping with the 100 percent manning decision for 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Division?**

**Response:** We are getting closer to 100 percent manning, but be aware that in order to get there we have taken thousands of soldiers out of TRADOC to put them in the trenches. We can't break TRADOC to fix the rest of the Army. We need a force structure increase of about 25,000 in the Army. Keep in mind, it takes an incredible amount of money to add one soldier to our forces. This is not an easy fix.

**Issue: You have the BOSS Program for single enlisted soldiers. What is geared toward the single officers?**

**Response:** - One thing that we are doing is extending the membership of the Hartell House to all officer ranks. Also, we are in the process of building Bachelor Officer Quarters for junior officers. Those are just some of the things we have planned. Also, I have tasked my staff to explore some options and to make recommendations concerning this matter.

**Issue: Is there a requirement for economy housing to have smoke detectors and fire extinguishers? Can we at least require our soldiers to have a fire extinguisher in the home?**

**Response:** Yes, there is a requirement. For at least the last nine months, a statement has been added to the contracts of all economy housing. This statement says that the landlord should provide a smoke detector and a fire extinguisher in the apartment. An inspector assigned to the housing division checks some apartments, but because of manpower all apartments cannot be checked. A



representative from the housing office gives an overview of housing policies at Yongsan's monthly Newcomers Briefing given by Army Community Services. The representative also informs soldiers that fire extinguishers can be issued at the Self-help Center located on Yongsan's South Post. I suggest that all soldiers read their housing contracts, make sure that the landlord complies with everything in the contract, and notify the housing division if otherwise. This is for your own safety and well being.

**Issue:** *Why can't we move around command-sponsored billets? They're all frozen now. We've lost a lot of our command-sponsored billets.*

**Response:** When I arrived in Korea we had numerous command sponsored billets and no one could figure out where they came from. Soldiers would request command sponsorship and it would be approved. This became a problem because we don't have anywhere near the housing on or off post to accommodate the approved command sponsored billets or quarters available to accommodate these families. Literally, people arrived and could not find housing. They couldn't find what they wanted. What it boiled down to is this: there is a certain level of people who should be command sponsored, and there is an unrealistic level. I stopped command sponsorship until I can review the whole situation. I want to bring this thing in line with what's available on and off post. Finally, we have got to bring the availability of housing back up and then we can increase the command sponsorships.

**Issue:** *What can be done to get job satisfaction during a one-year tour? Officers on staff are very busy with numerous exercises (one after the other), real-world requirements, and all the 25-meter pop-up targets that come everyday. It is very hard to get a quality product with all the re-*

*quirements that need to be met.*

**Response:** I couldn't be more empathetic. I can't go into details, but in the next several months there will be a major change in exercise scheduling, which I think will have a significant and positive impact on the way we do business here. There is a better way to deal with this and we will. Look forward to great improvements in our exercise schedule.

**Issue:** *Why don't we have an ATM at Camp Kyle?*

**Response:** You will soon! The Defense Financial Institutions Services (DFIS) – the organization that manages the Overseas Military Banking program and contract — approved the request for Automatic Teller Machines at Camp Kyle and Camp La Guardia on Oct. 24, 2000. The ATMs for Camp Kyle and Camp La Guardia should arrive in Korea within 90 days. Community Bank is in the process of purchasing the new ATMs. Coordination between Community Bank and installation facility engineers for site preparation is already underway.

**Issue:** *Are you aware of how bad living conditions are at CP Humphreys building # 749 and # 760? Latrines are bad, buildings falling apart and we're overcrowded. What can be done?*

**Response:** Yes, we are aware of the conditions of these two buildings. They are scheduled for a major \$4.1 million renovation. Occupants of both buildings are expected to move into one of the new barracks scheduled for completion July 2001. Currently, latrines in both buildings have been repaired. Additionally, since July 2000, Area III DPW has completed 106 service orders in building #749 and 202 service orders in building #760 at a total cost in excess of \$111,000. There are currently 28 open service orders for Building # 746 and 50 open service orders for building # 760. None of these are emergency service orders

and materials are on order with which to accomplish necessary repairs. We will continue to make repairs to these structures as problems occur, until they are vacated in the summer of 2001. In the meantime, make sure your chain of command know about any problems in the barracks. There is a building monitor assigned to each building to assist in managing work orders and be a single point of contact for building residents to report problems.

**Issue:** *With the increase of quality of life in Korea, will the tour of duty be increased?*

**Response:** No. You will still be required to do one year unaccompanied and two years accompanied. We're going to stick with that, and you'll still have the option to extend.

**Issue:** *My soldiers would like to know why do we work 10-hour duty days in Korea?*

**Response:** You have to remember, Korea is a different theater and we have to stay trained and ready. Our mission is much greater and much more realistic here. Your peacetime mission today could very well turn into a wartime mission tomorrow. Take your jobs seriously. Talk to your soldiers about why they are here, inform them of their mission and how this theater is different, but continue to be sensitive towards their needs. Although Korea is different, soldiers still need balance.

**Issue:** *Since this is a country with an armistice and not a peace treaty, why isn't there any Hazardous Duty Pay?*

**Response:** I looked at the definition of Hazardous Duty Pay and Hardship Pay. Hazardous duty pay is clearly defined and Korea does not fall into that category. But Hardship Pay does. Serving in Korea imposes

*Continued on next page*



significant hardships on everyone. I knew we could win that one, and we did.

**Issue:** *Personnel Tempo is tracking Temporary Duties, deployments and field problems. Was anything mentioned about remote sites?*

**Response:** I personally asked for clarification on Korea. The agreement specifically stated no PCS time will be counted. The clock has started and this policy applies to every servicemember all over the world, from general to private. Every day you spend away from your bunk is a day that counts. Servicemembers are authorized \$100 per day per diem if they are deployed (TDY, operational exercises, and unit training (on or off-post)) beyond 400 days in a 730-day rolling window. Make sure your time is being tracked.

**Issue:** *How can we get the right number of soldiers with the right Military Occupational Speciality (MOS), and put them where they are needed?*

**Response:** This is a big Army. We have a 96 percent changeover every year in Korea. Throughout the Army, we are starting a 100 percent manning of divisions. We are a lot better off than we were two years ago. In the aggregate, it's better than it's ever been, but it's never going to be perfect. Korea has the highest no-show rate in the Army. Twenty-five percent of the people who are suppose to get off that plane don't. They are getting out of the assignment to Korea. Sometimes we have to compensate for those soldiers with other soldiers of different MOSs.

**Issue:** *I am about to PCS from here within 30 days and I don't have PCS orders.*

**Response:** No soldier should be 30 days out from PCSing without orders. In most cases, there is a reason for the soldier not having orders. The

soldier may need to extend or reenlist, they may not have enough time to return to the states, or they may not have received orders from the Department of the Army for the next duty station. In any case, if you are five months out from PCSing and have not received any notification of your next assignment, contact your Personnel Administration Center (PAC). They will be able to help you.

**Issue:** *Why is there a difference in the hardship pay throughout the peninsula?*

**Response:** My first battle was to convince Congress that Korea qualified to receive hardship pay. We won that battle. My position going into the fight was that, if I won, I would not get \$150 for the entire peninsula. So, with that guidance that I was given, the monies were distributed based on the level of Quality-of-Life hardship in the area. My intention is to keep fighting this battle until I have \$150 for everyone.

**Issue:** *How can you improve sick call? Camp Stanley and Yongsan medical clinics don't have enough doctors and practitioner's assistants (PAs) for sick call. We report to sick call and they conduct a "triage" of patients. Most of us get appointments to come back later.*

**Response:** (Editor's Note: This is an update to the answer previously published.) Effective Dec. 1, 2000, Camp Stanley and the Yongsan Health Clinics initiated a "Same Day Appointment System." Active Duty soldiers in Yongsan can call 725-6724/6232 from 6:30 to 9 a.m., Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Active Duty troops at Camp Stanley can call 732-5314 from 0630-0900 during the same days and times. Active Duty soldiers no longer have to go to the clinic to book an appointment. The Urgent Care Clinics (UCC) see patients with acute conditions that require immediate attention. Effective

January 3, 2001, the Yongsan UCC is open 24 hours, seven days a week.

**Issue:** *Describe the costs and plans to fix telephone service in Hannam Village. Work with Korea Telecom and fix inbound phone service in Hannam Village, starting with building G & H.*

**Response:** Telephone service surveys were hand delivered to every occupied Hannam Village apartment—approximately 600. We received 24 replies and of these, approximately 50 percent indicated varying degrees of problems. Problems do not appear to be systemic and we are currently working directly with the residents that identified themselves to resolve issues presented. We will again solicit feedback at the next Hannam Village Town Hall Meeting and report results in a subsequent update.

**Issue:** *Is there an effort to keep the Military Clothing and Sales Store (MCSS) well stocked?*

**Response:** We have created a plan to double the size of the MCSS in Yongsan. The MCSS is going to be a part of a new Mini-Mall that will be located where the current MCSS is located. We are projected to break ground in July 2001. The new mini-mall will include a barbershop, beauty shop, Four Seasons, sports store, a shoppette with increased video rentals, and the new MCSS. The current MCSS will soon be moving into a temporary location (BLDG S-1416) on Main Post. We have to take a look at the MCSS in other areas.